MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 NOVEMBER 1981

Israel

Jerusalem radio reported on 1 November that Prime Minister Menahem Begin sent a message to President Reagan on 30 October describing Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's eight-point peace plan as a collection of extreme resolutions aimed at the liquidation of Israel and stressing the negative role played by Saudi Arabia in the Middle East. Another radio report said Israel will launch an information offensive in the United States in an attempt to undermine Saudi Arabia's image as a peace-seeking country, thereby creating a background for the rejection of Prince Fahd's plan. Reporting on the 1 November Cabinet meeting in which Begin briefed his ministers on the contents of his message to Reagan and on his forthcoming Knesset address, the radio said Israel regards growing U.S.-Saudi ties with great gravity. Newspaper editorials reported by the radio on the same day criticized U.S. ties with Saudi Arabia, focusing in particular on the Saudi peace plan. Earlier, a 30 October MA'ARIV commentary warned that Israel must brace itself for the imminent discovery by the U.S. Administration of "positive points" in Prince Fahd's plan. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio reported that a source close to Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon confirmed that one reason for Sharon's U.S. statements favoring Saudi Arabia and its peace plan. The radio also said Sharon is concerned about U.S. weapons supplied to Iraq. According to a 1 November MA'ARIV report, "massive" shipments of U.S. arms have been delivered to Iraq via Saudi Arabia. MA'ARIV said the postponement of Sharon's visit and that of an IDF delegation is meant to demonstrate to the United States Israel's anger and disappointment over U.S. support for Saudi Arabia.

Egypt

Mubarak Interviews -- In an interview with OCTOBER transmitted by MENA on 31 October, President Husni Mubarak announced he is ready to go to Saudi Arabia or any Arab country to explain Egypt's position and settle their disputes. Reaffirming his desire to open a "new page" in Egyptian-Arab relations, he said he wants to give everyone time "for thinking, consideration and revision" since policies cannot be changed overnight. He emphasized that there are no secret contacts between Egypt and Saudi Arabia, asserting that all such contacts will be made in public. Mubarak affirmed that the forthcoming "Bright Star" maneuvers are not aimed at Libya and also said Egyptian-Soviet relations are certain to improve with time. Once again, Mubarak pledged his commitment to the principles of late President Anwar as-Sadat.

MENA also transmitted on 1 November Mubarak's interview with the Washington POST in which he affirmed that Egypt will not change it's policy toward Israel after it withdraws from the Sinai in April 1982. Mubarak reiterated Egypt's view that certain points of Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan could be "good issues for any future dialogue." However, he said the government will pay much more attention to internal questions than to foreign policy, adding that he wants domestic problems to be discussed "with all parties on a larger scale."

Arab Contacts -- According to AFP, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali reiterated on 31 October that Egypt will not attend the forthcoming Arab summit conference in Morocco. Ghali said Egypt's contacts with other Arab states will be bilateral and not through the Arab League. Citing ROSE AL-YUSUF, MENA reported on 1 November that a prominent Saudi personality will visit Cairo shortly to meet with Egyptian officials. MENA later reported that MAY's 2 November issue asserts that certain Gulf countries, including Abu Dhabi and Qatar, are seeking a Saudi-Egyptian reconciliation.

Mubarak to Meet Opposition Leader -- Citing MAY, MENA reported that President Mubarak has agreed to meet with Progressive Nationalist Unionist Grouping leader Khalid Muhyi ad-Din.

Arrests -- AFP cited AL-AKHBAR as reporting on 30 October that 875 Muslim fundamentalists have been arrested since the assassination of President as-Sadat. According to MENA, AKHBAR AL-YAWM's 31 October edition reported that 587 members of the "terrorist organization" that planned to declare a "Khomeyni-style revolution" have been detained. The paper carried reportage on the confessions of the detainees.

AWACS Withdrawal -- Cairo radio reported on 29 October that the U.S. administration had decided to withdraw the two AWACS aircraft from Egypt in the light of the relaxation of tension in the area.

Further Reaction to AWACS Decision

GULF NEWS AGENCY reported on 31 October that Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah expressed satisfaction over U.S. Senate approval of the sale of AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia; in a similar vein an Omani Foreign Ministry spokesman welcomed the decision, according to QNA. The Jordanian paper AD-DUSTUR opined on 30 October that Israeli anxiety over the deal shows that Israel has begun to feel that the defeat of its supporters in the U.S. Congress marks the beginning of a new phase of U.S. pressure on Israel. However, a Jordan TIMES editorial the following day warned that the message from Washington is "double-edged" since while the United States is developing ties with the Arab world, its support for Israel remains the single most important pillar of its policy in the Middle East. Commentaries over the weekend by the Clandestine Voice of Palestine radio voiced criticisms of the AWACS deal, asserting that the defeat of the Israeli lobby should not be exaggerated since "according to available information" the AWACS will not alleviate IDF threats against Arab countries. The radio noted "with grave concern the high price which many quarters will pay in this AWACS revelry." PARS carried a strong attack on the AWACS deal by the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

Multinational Force

In a statement carried by Damascus radio, a "responsible" Syrian source stated that Syria will submit the question of European participation in the Sinai multinational force to the forthcoming Arab summit conference. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio reported that Italy has announced it will join the Sinai force alongside France, Great Britain and Holland.

PLO

'Arafat Interview -- In a wide-ranging 30 October interview with the Beirut paper AN-NAHAR, broadcast by the Voice of Palestine, Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said his recent trip to Moscow was the most important visit he ever made to the Soviet Union. While preferring not to discuss whether the PLO had obtained Soviet arms or guarantees, 'Arafat said the PLO's military power is developing on a "daily basis."

Relations with Egypt -- Commenting on reports of exploratory contacts between some Arab states and Egyptian President Mubarak, the Voice of Palestine said all connections with Mubarak's regime must be considered "suspect" as long as Egypt remains a party to the Camp David "plot."

Khalaf on Fahd Plan -- In an interview published by AL-MUSTAQBAL on 31 October, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf said no Palestinian leader is entitled to accept Prince Fahd's peace plan as a whole, adding that talk about its seventh article, which implies coexistence with Israel, may divide the Palestinians. Khalaf criticized the Saudis for failing to discuss the plan with the PLO prior to issuing it.

Lebanon

A 1 November Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) statement broadcast by Beirut radio announced that the ADF would begin intensive patrols on 2 November to bring the situation in Beirut and its suburbs under control. The statement listed seven measures, including bans on carrying and firing arms in the streets, driving in military vehicles and setting up roadblocks and military fortifications. According to an earlier statement broadcast by the Voice of Palestine, the Higher Coordination Committee of Lebanese and Palestinian Parties will help implement the ADF crackdown on "armed manifestations."

Libya

Comment on Chad -- Tripoli radio said Western, U.S. and "reactionary" media have given a false impression of the situation in Chad by concentrating on "an alleged request" by Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei for the total and immediate withdrawal of Libyan forces from Chad. The radio said these allegations were intended to poison Libyan-Chadian relations.

Voronin, Jibril Visits -- JANA reported that Soviet State Planning Committee First Deputy Chairman Lev Voronin met in Tripoli with Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud on 31 October. Meanwhile, Tripoli's Voice of the Arab Homeland radio reported the arrival in the capital of PFLP-GC Secretary General Ahmad Jibril.

YAR, PDRY

Damascus Radio reported that YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih held talks in Syria with President Hafiz al-Asad over the weekend. According to KUNA, Salih met with YAR opposition leaders during his stay in Damascus. KUNA also reported that PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad visited Kuwait on 1 November for talks with the amir and other Kuwaiti leaders. MTI reported that the PDRY leader is scheduled to visit Hungary on 2 November.

OPEC

Citing a 30 October press conference statement by Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, OPECNA reported that Saudi Arabia has set an oil production ceiling of 8.5 million barrels a day starting 1 November. Among the schedule of new prices per barrel, reported by AFP, Libya's oil is listed at $37.50.

Iran

New Cabinet -- Tehran radio broadcast a live relay of the portion of the 2 November Majlis session during which Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani read out a letter from Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi presenting his new Cabinet to the Majlis for approval. Apart from the appointment of Col Mohammad Salimi as defense minister and Ahmad Tavakkoli as minister of labor and social affairs, Musavi's proposed Cabinet does not differ from that of former Prime Minister Mohammad Reza Mahdavi-Kani. Musavi himself will temporarily retain the Foreign Ministry portfolio.

Khamene'i, Musavi Remarks -- In a 1 November message to the nation broadcast by Tehran radio, President 'Ali Khamene'i claimed that opponents of the regime have been "exposed" and have no support among the people. Asserting that the future of the Iran-Iraq war "belongs to us," he said Iran will continue to fight until it achieves "victory and honor." Regarding Iran's economic problems, he said shortages, high prices and unemployment are the consequence of resistance to outside pressures. He said the nation must endure temporary hardships in order to end its dependency on foreign powers, adding that Iran will achieve a "sure economy" in a short time.

In remarks reported by the radio on 30 October, Prime Minister Mubavi said Iran will continue to push the Iraqis "behind the lines to the very end." In another part of his speech, broadcast by the radio, Musavi indicated that he does not favor extensive nationalization of the economy, saying that the government does not plan to become a big employer. The goverment favors instead the growth of cooperatives, he said, while the private sector will be able to continue its activities with confidence and peace of mind.

Security Situation -- PARS reported on 30 October that 17 Mujahedin-e Khalq and Feda'iyan-e Khalq were executed in Rushehr, Navahand and Qa'em shahr during recent days. Citing JUMHURI-YE ESLAMI's 1 November edition, AFP reported the recent execution of 21 dissidents in Tehran, Esfahan, Quchan and Karaj. Earlier, AFP cited the same source as reporting the execution for killing of a number of other dissidents in various towns. A 1 November Tehran radio report said that five Kurdish rebels were killed in Mahabad during clashes with revolution guards and that another 11 rebels were wounded in earlier clashes with government forces near Sar Dasht.

Armed Forces' Courts, Clerical Supervision of Guards -- Tehran radio reported on 1 November that the Majlis approved the bill whereby the judicial organization of the armed forces will be attached to the Justice Ministry. Judges in military courts will now be chosen by the Supreme Judicial Council. Earlier, the radio carried an interview with Revolution Guards Commander Mohsen Reza'i in which he revealed that a theologian is to supervise the ideological section of the corps. In a related report, AFP said Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's representative to the guards announced the appointment of religious representatives in each of the 10 guard' districts.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

According to an Iraqi Armed Forces communique transmitted by INA, three Iranian planes were downed on 30 October when they attempted to make a "sneak" attack on Dukan and Dibs, in northern Iraq. Two of the planes were hit by antiaircraft fire from the ground while a third was shot down in a dogfight. According to INA, Baghdad television showed film footage the following night of the Iranian plane wreckage and a wounded pilot taken captive. Another armed forces communique broadcast over Baghdad Voice of the Arab Masses radio reported that another Iranian plane had been shot down in the southern sector of the war zone on 1 November.

Afghanistan

Dost on Security Situation -- In an interview given to AFP on 1 November, Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost asserted that the armed forces, with assistance from "other security forces, the police and party organizations," now have "total control" throughout the country. He also said the government enjoys the people's support because they realize that it is serving their interests. Dost stressed that no timetable can be worked out for Soviet withdrawal from the country until outside assistance to the Pakistan-based insurgent movement ceases.

Iranian Plan -- According to Karachi radio, Hoseyn Lavasani, head of an Iranian delegation visiting Pakistan to discuss the means to end the Afghan crisis, said at a 30 October press conference that during his talks a new plan for solving the crisis had been presented to the Government of Pakistan. The plan calls for the withdrawal of foreign troops, the restoration of Afghanistan's Islamic status, Muslim countries' aid to the rebels and a peacekeeping role for forces from Muslim countries.

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BAKHTAR COMMENTS ON BRIGHT STAR MANEUVERS

LD010644 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0530 GMT 1 Nov 81

[By the BAKHTAR political observer]

[Text] Kabul, 31 Oct (BAKHTAR) -- The dangerous American actions meant to put flagrant pressure with respect to Egypt as well as to the countries neighbouring with it -- first of all -- fix Libya, in connection with the assassination of As-Sadat, are known to all. [sentence as received]

More than two dozen American battleships with units of "Rapid Deployment Force" on board have been concentrated at the seashores of Egypt. The south Mediterranean is being patrolled by the aircraft of the U.S. Air Force. Preparations for the transportation of American troops to the Middle East are being made under the guise of "Bright Star" military manoeuvers in which Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Oman are invited to participate. Large contigents of troops, considerable amount of military equipment and arms, airborne units transferred from the territory of the U.S.A., the units of U.S. Marine Corps based on the battleships in the Indian Ocean, B-52 strategic bombers, tactical interceptors as well as AWACS, the radar equipped aircraft, will be employed in these manoeuvres.

The steps taken by the Americans are aimed at establishment of their direct military presence in the Middle East. These have nothing to do with the interests of the peoples of this region. The White House tries to impose a kind of military protectorate over Egypt, Sudan, Oman and Somalia, predetermining their internal development by the frames and schemes drawn by the United States. A well-known statement of President Reagan that the USA would not allow Iranian developments to be repeated in Saudi Arabia should be considered in this context.

The position of the American Administration towards Libya is fraught with special dangers in the present situation. In essence, it is an attempt to use the whole arsenal of the pressure levers -- military, political, propaganda and others -- to remove the present leadership of the country, which is not to Washington's liking.

Official American circles explain their actions by the desire to ensure a "leading role" in the Middle East or the United States, though nobody asked them to do this. One can hardly be misguided by the assertions of Washington that all this is undertaken allegedly for the sake of "stability" in that region.

The link of Israel to the implementation of the American designs through "strategic cooperation" between these two countries is also becoming more evident.

The USA and Israel are pursuing a common line in order to prevent the unity of Arab countries on an anti-imperialist basis, to hinder the achievement of a comprehensive and just settlement of the Middle East conflict -- first of all Palestinian question -- and to revise the all-Arab resolutions approved in Baghdad.

DOST: ARMED FORCES IN FULL CONTROL OF COUNTRY

OW011321 Paris AFP in English 1130 GMT 1 Nov 81

[By Alain Faudeux]

[Text] Kabul, 1 Nov (AFP) -- Afghanistan's Armed Forces are in "complete control" of a country that "overwhelmingly" supports its government and party, according to Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost.

In an exclusive interview here with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, the minister said armed opposition was reduced to sporadic terrorist acts fomented from abroad.

Turning to the "so-called Afghan issue", Mr Dost said the central issue in any negotiation with third countries was that they stop abetting a Pakistani-based insurgent leadership. Only then a timetable can be worked out for a Soviet departure from Afghanistan, he added.

His declarations contradicted Western diplomatic reports that the Kabul government is in effective control of only a modest portion of a country where it enjoys only a limited support.

The foreign minister said the rebellion "has ceased to be in a position to harm government and country. All that the counter-revolutionary bandits are capable of are isolated acts of terrorism, such as assassinating a doctor or a teacher in a rural area."

He said this did not worry the government, as it was capable of "mopping up such elements and restoring a totally normal situation in the country."

The minister declared that Moslem resistance was "a phenomenon created 100 per cent through the interference of the United States, Britain, China and Pakistan, who arm and train bandits and mercenaries in Pakistani territory."

It was for that reason, Mr Dost continued, that "the problem of a national [word indistinct] does not arise -- there is no confrontation within the [words indistinct] with the rebels from the outside."

Rebels that laid down their arms are being amnestied, he added.

The minister claimed that the communist regime was stronger than it had ever been since "the second phase of the revolution," in December, 1979, when Babrak Karmal took office following the Soviet intervention.

Mr Dost said the armed forces had completed operations against "bandits and mercenaries from abroad and captured arms stocks in various parts of the country," adding: "They have now total control of the situation in all of the country with, of course, the assistance of other security forces, the police and party organizations."

"Politically," the minister declared, "government and party enjoy the complete support of the overwhelming majority of the people, now that Afghans have realized that its new leadership and government are really serving the people's interest."

"The historic event," the minister added, "was the creation of the National Fatherland Front, which triggered a movement of massive scope that put the people into contact with government and party even in the most remote places in the nation."

He recalled that the front comprised "more than 10 major organizations," including the communist party, "members from all sectors of activity, in all more than 900 people's delegates representing the different provinces, ethnic groups and tribes."

The minister added that citizens continued to apply for membership individually, in order to work for the "now irreversible revolution."

Turning to diplomatic problems, Mr Dost, who flies to New York on November 15 to attend a U.N. General Assembly debate on Afghanistan, criticized neighboring Pakistan's role in the search for a political solution.

The foreign minister said he did not understand Pakistan's accusations that Afghan planes were violating Pakistani air space.

He said that at each accusation Afghan military authorities had assured the government no violation had occurred. "Pakistani allegations of incursions by Afghan planes and attacks on border posts are groundless," Mr Dost said, noting that Pakistan had never produced proof.

The minister added that it was "surprising" that the charges were proferred just as Pakistan had received 3,200 million dollars in American aid, and timed to coincide with a visit to Islamabad by James Buckley, in charge of security problems at the U.S. State Department.

Mr Dost suggested that the charges were meant to "prepare the terrain for the U.N. General Assembly debate on the so-called Afghan problem."

He said that Pakistan "refuses to sit at the same conference table with us, though procedural problems preceding actual negotiations have been solved through indirect negotiations via the U.N. secretary-general."

The minister contrasted this attitude with "greater flexibility" from Kabul, notably "our proposals on August 24 accepting bilateral, trilateral and multilateral negotiations, as well as the participation of the secretary general."

"We will not, however, accept any other forum than a meeting of the countries concerned," he warned, mentioning Pakistan, Iran and the Soviet Union alongside Afghanistan itself.

The Afghan foreign minister did not reject out of hand the possibility of continuing indirect negotiations, used successfully for procedural matters, but said this would mean a "long and tiresome procedure."

Pakistan has rejected direct talks, to avoid a de facto recognition of the Kabul regime.

Mr Dost said that to his government "negotiations on substance" meant "obtaining a permanent end to armed incursions from Pakistani territory, and in a minor way from Iran."

He added that once this was achieved, and "sufficient guarantees are given us for the future," Kabul would discuss other issues, notably "the problem of the refugees who are prevented from returning to their country."

The minister said that if "incursions were to cease definitively," his government would open discussions with the Soviet Union and, "on the basis of our agreements, set a calendar for the repatriation of the limited contingent of Soviet troops."

Mr Dost dismissed a Pakistani argument that it was impossible to seal the border to prevent insurgent infiltrations into Afghanistan.

"This does not mean placing a soldier every 50 meters (yards) along the border, but a sovereign government is always in a position to control what is going on within its territory," he said.

"Gang leaders," he continued, "profit from all sorts of help -- they have offices in Pakistan, visit training camps, travel abroad to ask for arms. They also speak on radio and have their newspapers printed."

"Thus it is not just a case of closing the border," the minister concluded. "Why not transfer them (the rebels) to Punjab (a province in central and eastern Pakistan) and close their offices," he asked. "This can be done if the will really exists. Pakistan must cease to arm and train the bandits, cooperate in obliging other countries to stop supporting or fomenting subversive activities" against Afghanistan.

U.S. CHARGED WITH DUPLICITY IN SENATE F-16 VOTE

BK311215 Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Oct 81 p 2

[Text] The U.S. Senate has cleared the way for the supply of F-16 fighter-bombers to Pakistan. In so doing it has also removed the fetters applied to itself by the Symington amendment which forbade the supply of arms to countries that refuse to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty [NPT] specifying full scope safeguards of their nuclear facilities. However, the fresh condition was introduced by one of the senators that all aid would be cut off if either India or Pakistan explodes a nuclear device. Later it was expanded to include other countries.

Reports indicate that the Reagan administration will fight this clause, which, if it is defeated, will remove all vestiges of restraint of Pakistan's attempt to make a nuclear bomb. It reveals the abysmal depth of U.S. chicanery. The Senate decision is to suspend the Symington amendment for a period of six years -- during which the United States will complete its 3.2-billion-dollar military and economic aid programme to Pakistan.

During that time, according to expert opinion, Pakistan would also have completed preparation of an atomic device. One estimate is that Pakistan would be able to explode a nuclear device before the end of 1982. It now will be able to assemble a device and perhaps test it in China. This coupled with Pakistan's frenzied efforts to buy a medium-range missile from the West German firm Otrag, would give that country the capability of delivering a nuclear warhead anywhere on Indian territory. Pakistan has opposed any attempt to bridle its nuclear programme and the United States in search of a strategic consensus in the region is apparently willing to go along with Pakistani desires.

The Senate vote also underscores U.S. duplicity when on the one hand it refuses to adhere to its contractual obligation to supply India enriched uranium for the Tarapur plant because it has not signed the NPT but yet it is willing to waive an obstructive piece of legislation so as to enable it to rearm Pakistan even while it is going ahead full steam to achieve a nuclear capability. The Glenn amendment seeking an annual report on Pakistan's nuclear programme will be ineffective because the U.S. Administration has on innumerable occasions told lies to Congress and on this issue it is not likely to tell the truth.

REAGAN REMARKS ON TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS SCORED

BK311105 Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Oct 81 P 2

[Text] President Ronald Reagan's allies have begun to wonder where he is taking them. They have expressed their fear that Mr Reagan's notion that a nuclear war can be won is dangerous. It will turn Europe into a potential nuclear battlefield. They interpret the U.S. President's remark: "I could see where you could have an exchange of tactical weapons against troops in the field without it bringing either one of the major powers into pushing the button" to mean that he is thinking of Europe as a war theatre. It is in Europe that American strategists believe they will use tactical nuclear weapons to stop the preponderance of Soviet tanks. It does not require any Soviet propaganda to make the Europeans realise the implications of the President's remark. Pressure has been mounting from West European leaders that the United States must sit down with the Soviet Union to negotiate a de-escalation of the nucelar threat. This found expression in the recent NATO meeting in Scotland where the European nations insisted that a scrapping of plans to plant Pershing and cruise missiles in Western Europe as a possible option in negotiations with the Soviet Union should be inscribed in the joint statement of NATO defence ministers. This "zero option" concept envisages the removal of Soviet SS-20 missiles in return for dropping U.S. plans to induct tactical nuclear weapons into Western Europe.

This pressure from the allies, if it is pursued to its logical conslusion, could result in a return to the concept of mutual assured destruction (MAD) as a restraining balance of terror distinct from the wild fantasy of the Reagan administration that the West could achieve a "first strike" capability without fear of massive retaliation from the Soviet Union. That from out of a nuclear war the United States can emerge a victor is the notion that the allies firmly rejected. That is why President Reagan backtracked and sought shelter behind the whimper that the Soviet Union was trying to sow discord among the European allies. Mr Reagan had admitted that the U.S. nuclear strategy is based in part on the notion that the Russians believe a nuclear war is possible and winnable. He was soon disabused of this "notion" when President Leonid Brezhnev unambiguously rejected the concept of a nuclear war and called on the U.S. President to subscribe to the idea that a nuclear attack is a criminal act. He has reiterated the proposal made at the UN General Assembly for the big powers to eschew "first strike" capability, pointing out that if there were no first nuclear strike ability there would be no need for a "second strike" posture.

In the perfervid consumerism of the United States it appears easy to advertise and sell hare-brained concepts. For instance, decisions like the one on the MX missile, the B-1 bomber and the refurbishing of the command, control and communications system are all part of the meaningless exercise to make the "winnability" of a limited nuclear war an attractive concept -- essentially meant to serve the military-industrial complex. The cost of militarisation is being transferred to Europe by means of the U.S. high interest rates for finance. The allies wanting peace with profitable business could take no more of Mr Reagan's military and financial belligerence and called his bluff at the NATO meet in Scotland. Shamefacedly, Mr Reagan tried to pass the blame to the Soviet Union -- where he faced the question why not declare the one who makes the first strike a criminal.

GANDHI STRESSES SELF-RELIANCE IN DEFENSE

BK301651 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] The prime minister has stressed the need for self-reliance in defense and development. Opening the silver jubilee function of the School of International Studies in New Delhi this evening. Mrs Gandhi said whatever be the difficulties in attaining self-reliance we cannot afford to be dependent upon others. A small country may achieve growth through large scale aid but India is far too vast to be build out by any other country.

Referring to the factors which determine the foreign policy of a geographical position and its neighboring countries and their policies. A nation frequently subjected to invasions has to be specially careful about its security.

Recalling Jawaharlal Nehru's stand on nonalignment, she said it helped us to become technologically more self-reliant. Nonalignment is a policy and not an objective by itself. The objective is freedom of judgment and of action to safeguard the nation's basic interest.

Mrs Gandhi said military alliances entail obligations that may not be entirely consistent with a nation's interest. Hence, many countries even within such alliances are now somewhat restive and apprehensive about bases and stationing of missiles. Foreign policy cannot be very different from domestic aspirations and policies, the prime minister asserted.

Mrs Candhi said even even a policy is right and reflects the desire and interest of the people, it may not be acceptable to many political parties. A policy should not be concerned with consensus among parties but with its relevance and acceptance by the people at large.

Earlier, Mrs Gandhi presented a scroll of honor to Founder-Director of the School of International Studies Prof Appadurai.

As Mrs Gandhi began her inauguration speech, a selection of the students raised slogans. They were promptly whisked away by security personnel.

IRAN PRESENTS NEW PLAN FOR AFGHAN SOLUTION

BK310605 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] Hoseyn Lavasani, leader of the visiting Iranian delegation, has reiterated his country's demand that Soviet troops must pull out from Afghanistan unconditionally. Addressing a news conference at Islamabad Airport last evening before leaving for Karachi, he said that during their talks with the Pakistan authorities a new plan for a solution to the Afghanistan problem has been presented to Pakistan. Besides withdrawal of foreign troops, the plan envisages the restoration of the Islamic status of Afghanistan, Muslim countries' assistance to the Afghan freedom fighters and importance of the role of peacekeeping forces of Muslim countries in Afghanistan. He said that the final details of the plan will be revealed later on.

The leader of the Iranian delegation said that they exchanged views on the Middle East siutation, the Palestine issue and the Iran-Iraq conflict as well as other regional and international issues. He said matters of economic cooperation with Pakistan -- especially in agriculture, trade and railways -- were discussed at length. Iran wants to benefit from Pakistan's experience in the field of railways and wants Iranians to be trained in Pakistan and also Pakistani experts to visit Iran. He said Iran wants to import rice and some other commodities. He added that they have invited Pakistani delegations to visit Iran with a view to promote trade further between the two countries. Hoseyni Lavasani expressed complete satisfaction at their wide-ranging talks in Pakistan. He said they have come to visit a brotherly neighbor and Islamic country and here Imam Khomeyni and Iran's revolution are respected.

When asked about his opinion on Pakistan's package deal with the United States, he said it is an internal affair of Pakistan and the Iranian Government's policy is not to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries.

Talks Conclude

BK301546 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] The final round of talks between Pakistan and Iran was held in Islamabad today. During the talks, Foreign Secretary Riaz Piracha led the Pakistani delegation while the Iranian delegation was led by Director General of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Hoseyn Lavasani. The two sides exchanged views on bilateral and regional issues during the talks. The political solution of the Afghanistan issue was particularly reviewed at the talks. Other issues which came up for discussion include the Middle East crisis and the Iran-Iraq dispute. The talks were held in an extremely cordial atmosphere and the two sides expressed satisfaction over the fact that they had an opportunity to exchange views on important issues of mutual interest.

The Iranian delegation also held detailed talks on economic issues and trade with senior officials of the Ministries of Economic Affairs, Planning, Railways, Commerce and Agriculture. The delegation members also called on the finance minister. They also visited the railway carriage factory at the federal capital and the heavy machine industry in Taxila.

RAFSANJAN LINKS AWAC'S WITH IRAQI RAIDS

LD311824 Tehran PARS in English 1714 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 31 Oct (PARS) -- Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that in all fronts Iran was advancing or maintaining the upper hand leaving Iraq no option but to conduct occasional savage airplane or missile attacks relying on the electronic interference and radar scrambling of AWACS flying over Saudi Arabia to help it in these raids.

Following Friday's Supreme Defence Council meeting Rafsanjani said that the way would be won by Iran in the battlefields. Mr. Rafsanjani, one of the imam's representatives in the council, talked about the recent attacks of the enemy forces on the residential areas, saying that the reason Saddam was resorting to such flashy operations was to compensate for his great defeats. Rafsanjani said that it was patently obvious that the war would not be won by bombarding residential areas but rather in the battlefield just as the victory in Abadan proved itself a turning point. Rafsanjani stated a report on the status of the war fronts was, as usual, presented before the council by the chief of the Joint Staff and future operational plans were discussed and reviewed. Imam's son, Ahmad Khomeyni, was present in the meeting, said Rafsanjani, to report on the discussed war issues to imam.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON AWACS SALE

LD311754 Tehran PARS in English 1646 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 31 Oct (PARS) -- The sale of billions of dollars of weapons and more importantly the sale of AWACS of the Saudi Arabian Government on behalf of the U.S. drew sharp reaction from the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic tonight.

The ministry said in a statement that the approval of the sale to Saudi Arabia, with special conditions, "implicates the total occupation of the holy Islamic lands by the dominating U.S. and the usurper Israel, which begins from the honourable Al-Quds and is not expanding to glorious Mecca and Medina, and is considered a step against the interests of the Islamic umma of the region."

The ministry added that the depths of the conspiracy would be more evident by considering the military presence of the U.S. in Egypt and North Africa and the plans for the enforcement of the multi-national European forces in the Sinai desert. "We warn these (European countries that the stationing of their forces in the Sinai would revive the memories of the 'Crusades' and they would actually be confronted with the Muslims of the world," the ministry statement said.

The statement continued that the "world-devouring adventurism of the U.S." would bring them the wrath of the one billion deprived Muslims of the World and concluded that "the new arrangement of the arrogant imperialist front" against the Muslims would end up in the latter's mass uprising against the U.S. and its servants.

EMAMI-KASHANI ATTACKS AWACS SALE, SAUDIS

GF301038 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0916 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Friday Arabic sermon delivered by newly-appointed temporary Tehran Friday Imam Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mohammad Emami-Kashani at Tehran University on 30 October -- live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Peace be upon our glorious Muslim nation. Peace be upon our Muslim Arab brothers. During the past week, the world has witnessed new developments in the political arena with regard to international arrogance. [Words indistinct] to carry through Fahd's plan -- or what we call the second Camp David accords. It is assisted in this the [words indistinct] of the reactionary regimes in the region.

The Muslim peoples in the area have arisen; the revolutionary Muslim tide has risen in Egypt, Iraq, Sudan and Tunisia. The campaigns of terrorism, oppression and persecution have escalated. The prisons are packed with innocent detainees whose only crime is wanting to be masters of their own destiny and to establish a just and (?purposeful) Islamic government in their countries. [Words indistinct] imperialism to consolidate its pillars in order to terrorize Muslim peoples. The United States, with the participation of Egypt and Sudan, is carrying out joint exercises in Egypt [words indistinct] the efforts of the arrogant to strengthen their military capability through the Rapid Deployment Forces, fleets and U.S. military bases that are spread over the region.

Oh Arab brothers: The Islamic Republic of Iran, since the inception of its great revolution -- the revolution of all Muslim peoples -- [words indistinct] the shah, the stooge of the United States, declared a bitter fight and all-out struggle against imperialism and destroyed its mightiest bastion in the region. It fervently calls on the people today to reject the presence of military bases in their countries -- bases that serve the interests of arrogance and its petty stooges (?against) the Muslim revolutionary people.

Imperialism has (?prepared) the AWACS planes for the Saudi regime. [Saudi Defense and Aviation Minister] Prince Sultan has said that these planes will be used to consolidate security in the region and has thanked members of the U.S. Congress for assisting Reagan in his plans to consolidate security and stability. What security and stability does the prince mean? Is it the security of the persecuted peoples, or the security of reactionaries, Zionism and imperialism? Yes, they are afraid. They are (?terrified) of the Khomeyni revolution. [cheers and chants from the congregation]

Have you not [words indistinct] the new pharaoh of Egypt? The heroes who carried out God's sentence on the traitor As-Sadat wanted to carry out a revolution similar to Khomeyni's revolution in order to establish [cheers from the congregation] a state like the Islamic Republic.

Greetings to you, Oh leader imam. May you remain a great hope for the peoples [words indistinct].

As for Islamic and revolutionary Iran, following the abortion of all plots by the enemies and their agents within the country, Amnesty International has protested the creation of the Islamic revolution courts. What is this organization's (?stand) toward Islam and the oppressed peoples? Is not this organization, like other human rights (?organizations), a creation of imperialism, and does it not serve its interests?

Oh Muslim brothers, the month of Muharram has begun -- the month of blood in which the Shi'ites immortalize the memory of Hoseyn and his martyrdom in the battle for justice and immortalize his great revolution against the tyrants of his age. Muharram is the month of the victory of blood over the sword, the victory of the blood of oppressed, persecuted and deprived Muslims over the swords of the corrupt tyrants. Arise Oh Muslims to fight imperialism and the arrogance of the East and West.

KHAMENE'I SENDS MESSAGE TO NATION 1 NOV

LD012056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1700 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Message to the nation by President Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i on 1 November -- recorded]

[Excerpts] I have not had the opportunity to talk to you in detail since 27 June 1981, when an attempt was made on my life. Of course the day before the assassination attempt, I delivered the Friday prayers in Tehran and it was during a speech I was delivering that the incident occurred.

The existing political situation in which the nation has elected me as president, is at its best. Never in its history has our nation been in such a good political situation. I will explain why I believe the situation that we are currently in is the best. First of all there is the presence of the majority of the people on the scene, on the political scene. Never before has our nation been present on the scene so vigilantly. The nation is present on the scene and is aware of what it is doing. The presidential election is a good example.

Of 19 million or so eligible to vote, 17 million participated in the election. Of the 17 million, 16 million or more held one view and voted for one person. This is an extraordinary phenomenon, it is an event in the history of our nation. It is true that we held a referendum, during which 99 percent of the population held one view for establishing the Islamic Republic of Iran. But what we have to bear in mind is the fact that the day the referendum was held, the entire 36-million-strong population of this nation was not as active as it is today.

The second fact to prove and support my belief that our nation is passing through its best political situation is the fact that nowadays in our country, the deviant lines and even the deviant faces have mostly been exposed. The danger in any revolution is the existence of ground in which deviant lines could be promoted and absorb a section of society, by putting up some personalities and, in so doing, dividing the nation, ultimately leading the revolution to destruction and deviation. Of course, our revolution was also not an exception. There were people in our society who considered themselves the nation's master or even master of the revolution. They held the view that despite the people's effective role in the realization of the revolution, now that the revolution has succeeded, the people should stop poking their noses into the revolution's affairs and leave the scene so that they can rule the nation. Our nation faced the same problem once before -- during the constitutional uprising [in 1906].

There were a number of people and groups who took this course of action, and incidently they were supported by international politics. Some were supported by the Western superpower and some by the Eastern superpower. Had these groups succeeded and had the nation failed to expose them, they would have posed a serious danger to the revolution. In most other revolutions, the danger and deviating dimensions started from the same point. The revolutionary forces were gradually put aside by these deviant groups; the ground was left to them to take over the revolution and the nation's affairs.

Fortunately, now these groups and even those special ones are being exposed and the nation's credit for them is less than a penny. The adaptable and compromising groups -- who were willing to compromise with the United States, with the West and with the superpowers for the sake of protecting the country as they claimed, but in effect to keep themselves in power or otherwise to come to power -- have been exposed. Those who were planning to make themselves popular among the people at any price and with any means -- including reliance on the West or East -- have been exposed. The hypocrites, compromisers, liberals, groups affiliated with either West or East, today have no credit among the nation and the imam.

The imam himself categorically rejected and exposed the hypocrites, liberals, anti-God groups, the compromisers with the United States, the compromisers with the East -- resulting in the existence of only a pro-imam line, noncompromising, and revolutionary, deep in society. God willing, if what remains can be saved from disintegration and corruption in the future, or becomes passive, we can progress in the country for many years with the revolution's standard.

Among other peculiarities of the current political situation in our country, which makes it a special one, is the fact that our revolution has been exported to the world, in spite of all the opposition the trend has to encounter. You all remember what the imam said. The imam said: Do not say that our revolution must be exported.

No, our revolution ought to be exported, even though the dirty hands of the imperialists made every effort to exploit the imam's assertion, and the Zionist propaganda machinery tried to give the content of the imam's assertion a false impression. They told our neighbors that with their revolution the Iranian leaders were aiming to paralyze their internal situation. The intention was something quite different. The imam himself reiterated several times that the revolution's concept is the same as the soft spring weather. It does not recognize borders and frontiers, it will go through them and will be exported. There is no barrier that could stop the soft air of spring and the smell of roses. The revolution will succeed in bringing other people to it.

Today you are witnessing that in many countries, countries which are being considered as U.S. satellites in the region, the Islamic revolution shows its presence without the least bit of interference. In Egypt, in Iraq and in other regions our revolution is blossoming. Our message reached the nations and I will elaborate on this when I discuss our foreign policy. We are now being talked about at international gatherings. For 2 years they did not allow us to have a foreign ministry and deprived us from taking our message to the international congresses. But today this shortcoming is being removed. The Western world, the Third World, the Eastern world. the world of the deprived and the oppressed, the world of cultured and civilized people, more of less are becoming acquainted with our message, our aspirations and our issues. They are gradually becoming able to understand us.

I have to tell you today, when you are nearing the end of the third year of victory of the Islamic revolution and the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we have a special position as far as our political situation is concerned -- both from an internal point of view as well as in foreign policy.

With this introduction, I now turn my attention to a number the country's issues. In discussing these issues I might not have enough time. Therefore, I will postpone discussing them to another occasion and I hope if I am still alive, God willing, I will have the opportunity to discuss the country's important and vital issues with you, both through television and in public meetings.

Topics which I would like to discuss with you include our economy, the war -- which is among our basic issues -- and foreign policy. Perhaps these are the most vital topics which I will discuss with you.

First of all, very briefly I will touch upon the issue of the war. The war in fact is our most important issue. Our international enemy thought that this war could paralyze the Islamic Republic. You have heard a lot of commentary and analysis concerning this, offered both by myself and by other officials and people in the Friday prayers and other occasions. I may not need to offer any further elaboration. Today I think our nation knows very well why this war was started in the first place and why Iraq attacked us. The nation knows about the positive aspects of the war. As the imam said, what came about contained our best choice. This needs further explanation. First of all, this war did not make us dependent even one inch. In spite of the fact that for 13 months or so have been at war and have maintained, for more than 1 year, a superior position at the battlefronts and have put the enemy in real terms in a deadend, and our enemy is really sorry to have engaged in this war, nevertheless...[pauses] of course we bought arms during this war -- but to the extent that a country at war should have bought arms.

When you are at war you can hardly afford to economize on purchasing arms. A country which is at war -- Iraq is the example -- usually spends billions on the purchase of arms and is constantly receiving arms and ammunition. This is the case with Iraq, which is receiving arms. We too bought arms and ammunition, but I can say we have not spent even 1 percent of the amount which a country should spend on arms purchases while at war. We fought with what we had. We fought in the name of God, with our faith. Our children are correct when they say that they are equipped with the weapon of "God is great," our "God is great" slogan and our dependence on the divine.

Our hope in the divine and our support for this nation are a substitute in the shortage of arms in many cases. We are reactivating our unserviceable arms. We have been able to use old arms in place of modern ones. We have been able to use and prolong the life span of our existing arsenal and continue to do so. By deploying great human resources and with the deployment of the existing manpower we have been able to fill the gap of arms, and morale has continued to be boosted. We have been able to gradually wipe out the effects of the crushing blows which were brought upon us at the outset of the war. To fill the gaps, and today on the war front... [pauses] thank God we did not become dependent on anybody and did not spend a lot of money. In comparison with our country's population we did not suffer a lot of causalties, we still have superiority on the battle fronts.

This is all due to God's support and nothing else. It was with God's support that the nation was mobilized and it was due to your help and cooperation that we were able to deploy our military force. I felt this in the warfronts, behind the fronts, in the cities, villages and everywhere. Without our people's help, our military and guard personnel could not achieve anything.

These victories are continuing and will continue. The enemy was expelled from certain parts of our territory [words indistinct] and will continue to withdraw. The future of the war belongs to us. No one should doubt this and today our army, our revolution guards, our other groups fighting the war are in a much better situation than before, so is their morale. Of course my advice is that our nation continues to consider the war as its main issue. If we end this war with victory and honor, God willing, more than half of our country's problems, both economic and others will be solved. It is procisely for the same reason that the enemy is resisting death and is determined not to let us end the war with victory on our side. Our great and international enemies too are supporting the puppet regime of Iraq, and are not allowing the war to end.

With the war ending by our victory, God willing, a large number of our problems will be solved.

As regards the country's economic issued of course, I recommended that the economic ministers, like the ministers of industries and mines, economy and finance, and commerce, and the officals responsible for the economy and the economic mobilization come and talk to you more often and explain the problems to you. God willing, this will be done. It is very necessary for our people to be informed of the progress of our economic affairs which are, in fact, their own economic affairs. These affairs comprise problems and successes.

Before our economic ministers come and talk to you, I will outline for you our economic affairs. First you know that our economy -- that is, the economy that we inherited -- has two pecularities. It depended upon foreign powers. Everything was imported, from machinery to industrial and agricultural tools, raw materials for factories, various equipment for agricultural development, foodstuffs and consumer goods and so forth, cosmetics and so forth, clothing and [word indistinct] and so forth. As one of our friends said, a factory that produced a product was in fact producing a means for the consumption of a foreign company's products and [words indistinct]. In all spheres our economy was dependent and we were not self-reliant. The second aspect was that our national revenue depended on the oil industry; we relied mostly on the oil industry in our exports, and we still do. And the biggest and most important oil customers were those same Western companies; in our country the biggest customers were American, Japan and so forth. Our country was besieged from both sides, by the steel fingers of the enemy so that it could stifle our economy whenever it wished. These were the peculiarities of the economy left us by the previous system.

Of course, a great deal has been done in the last 2-3 years in order to end this dependence. We turned off our oil taps to some countries and reduced our production to a minimum, by reducing production we [words indistinct] increased our oil reserves by a great deal; we emphasized the production of domestic goods; agriculture has been given a new lease of life; our farms once again became green; wheat and rice were planted.

This year, our rice production is 1 million tons, and we have much more wheat than we had last year. All this is what has been done; the nation felt it should stand on its own two feet.

But this dependence has setbacks for us, and the enemy has tried to make the most of this dependence in order to exert pressure on us. Of course, I should frankly state a point here: Just as the enemy miscalculated on the military and political fronts and understimated us, and as it was punished for this miscalculation, so the enemy was unable to gauge our nation on the economic front and did not see this force of revolution and faith. Maybe if it had been another nation, or if it had not been for our revolutionary conditions, these pressures might have made the enemy successful. But our enemy has not yet been able to achieve anything by these pressures. This nation has resisted enemy pressure and it will continue to do so. The very important point here is that if our nation sees today that there are some economic shortages in society -- for example, high prices or in some cases shortages of some goods -- if it sees some unemployment in society, the nation should know that these are the consequences of its resistance. We could not stop resisting America and not persist in order to liberate our economy, our society and the regime of the Islamic rule. If we did, immediately all the shortages would end in the short term, and would be covered up, but in the long term our dependence would increase and our condition would deteriorate.

Our nation will never lower its resistance in the face of the existing pressures; we will resist and will succeed at the cost of the pressures that are exerted on us. Be sure that as a result of our nations resistance, in a short time, maybe less than 2-3 years, we will achieve a sure economy and bring our society to many of the goals about which we were shouting slogans. We are resisting; resistance entails hardship. We will endure this hardship, and we are certain that victory will be ours in this sphere, too.

The Majlis should try to outline clearly the scope of the activities of public, private and cooperative sectors. The majlis should clearly outline how our banking system should be. It is necessary for the government to pursue as quickly as possible the system of fair distribution so that our present foodstuffs should reach everyone. The people should try to fight as much as possible against the consumer culture that has been imposed on our society, and to change it into a revolutionary culture [words indistinct]. The forces that are operating in the dependent economic sectors should be gradually directed toward independent or less dependent sectors. We do not ask the people to fast; but we ask them to be (?prudent) in the form of their consumption, especially that of goods that make us more dependent.

KHAMENE'I APPOINTS MUSAVI PRIME MINISTER

LD311156 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] Following the approval of Mr Musavi as prime minister by the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran, a decree on his prime ministership was issued today by Mr Khamene'i, addressed to Prime Minister Musavi, which reads as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

His Excellency engineer Mir-Hoseyn Musavi:

Following the resignation by His Excellency Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani from his responsibility as prime minister, while expressing gratitude and appreciation for his worthy services, and following the Islamic Consultative Assembly's approval of Your Excellency's prime ministership, I hereby appoint you to this post.

I cherish the hope that God Almighty will grant you and your colleagues success for a worthy and continous service.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran

NEW CABINET PRESENTED FOR MAJLIS APPROVAL

GF020826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0718 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Letter from Prime Minister Musavi to the Majlis on composition of new Cabinet; read by Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani during the 2 November Majlis session -- live]

[Text] Here is the letter from the prime minister concerning the new Cabinet members.

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. To the respected speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, Brother Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani:

In accordance with article 133 of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Constitution, herewith are the names of the brothers who will be the members of the new Cabinet. They are presented to the Islamic Consultative Assembly for a vote of confidence. The following names have been approved by the respected president of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the president's letter of approval is enclosed:

1. Brother 'Ali Akbar Parvaresh as the minister of education and training.
2. Brother Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Abdolmajid Ma'adikhah as the minister of Islamic guidance.
3. Brother Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi Mosalman as the minister of commerce.
4. Brother Dr Hadi Manafi as the minister of health.
5. Brother Dr Mahmud Rohani as the minister of state in charge of the Welfare Organization.
6. Brother Dr Mohammad Taqi Banki as the minister of state in charge of the Plan and Budget Organization.
7. Brother Engineer Morteza Nabavi as the minister of post, telegraph and telephone.
8. Brother Seyyed Mohammad Asghari as the minister of justice.
9. Brother Colonel Salimi as the minister of defense.
10. Brother Engineer Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan as the minister of road and transport.
11. Brother Engineer Seyyed Mostafa Hashemi as the minister of industries. [does not refer to him as minister of industries and mines]
12. Brother Dr Mohammad 'Ali Najafi as the minister of higher education and culture.
13. Brother Seyyed Hoseyn Musavian as the minister of mines and metals.
14. Brother Ahmad Tavakkoli as the minister of labor and social affairs.
15. Brother Dr Seyyed Kamaleddin Nikravesh as the minister of interior.
16. Brother Mohammad Salamati as the minister of agriculture.
17. Brother Engineer Mohammad Shahab-Gonabadi as the minister of housing and urban development.
18. Brother Dr Hasan Ghafuri-Fard as the minister of energy.
19. Brother Engineer Seyyed Mohammad Gharazi as the minister of petroleum.
20. Brother Engineer Behzad Nabavi as the minister of state in charge of executive affairs.
21. Brother Dr Hoseyn Namazi as the minister of economy and finance.

In accordance with the article 141 of the Constitution, I will temporary be in charge of the responsibilities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

[Signed] Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, 2 November 1981

MUSAVI ON WAR, ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, TASKS

LD301436 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Excerpts] On the first Friday of Muharram, the month when blood became victorious over swords, millions of our Muslim compatriots participated in glorious Friday prayers held throughout the country. In Tehran a large number of Muslim and militant people participated in the politicoreligious Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami-Kashani, Tehran's temporary Friday imam, at Tehran University.

Afterward, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, in a speech glorifying the Karbala' martyrs, said: It was due to the continuation of the red line of martyrdom that the epic of 5 June took shape in our country and became a turning point in the history of our nation and of the oppressed peoples of the world.

The dates of 8 September and 31 October 1978, on which we also sacrificed many martyrs, were also a continuation of the same line.

By emphasizing the decisive and invincible will of Imam Khomeyni as a peerless example of the revolution's leadership, he expressed his views on the continuation of the government of the martyred Raja'i, the martyred Bahonar, the present government and the formation of the new government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He said: The government Cabinet should in fact be called the council of servants of Islam and the people. The government will not be able to fulfill the mission given to it during this critical stage of history without the nation's cooperation and support.

Referring to the nation's constructive role in eliminating difficulties, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said: As long as the nation is regarded as a part of our revolutionary society, it will be able to overcome difficulties and move toward progress, with the help of the people. Concerning the government's main policies and priorities, he stated: The governments of the martyrs Raja'i and Bahonar often announced that the main issue is the war. They said that victory in this war will be a victory over blasphemy throughout the world, one deeply affecting the oppressed people of the world. He added: Since the aggression of the American Saddam's regime started against our nation, we have resolved to remain steadfast against it in every possible way. Now, a year later, when the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces have been reorganized [arayesh yaftan], when the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has been fully prepared, and when the nation is prepared to accept greater hardships, the determination of our people to win is even greater than before. The outcome of this war will decide the fate of the Islamic revolution throughout the world. This war will end with the victory of our fighters because our nation will continue to push the enemy behind the lines [presumably the border] to the very end.

In another part of his speech, the prime minister stated:

[Begin Musavi recording] The second issue I would like to refer to is the economy. You know that after the triumph of the revolution our enemy, the United States, tried with all its power to defeat our nation on the economic front. The extent of the economic blockade and the results are clear enough and there is no need to speak about it in detail. However, by returning to its great faith, by returning to Islam, our nation succeeded in remaining steadfast in the face of these economic difficulties despite the shortage created by the enemies of the revolution. The economic policy of the government will be one of supporting the oppressed. However, in continuing a policy started by the martyred Raja'i, continued by the martyred Bahonar and by the government of our esteemed Brother Ayatollah Mahdavi, we will not deviate one bit from Islam based on the rule of the jurisconsults and the Islamic constitution. [shouts of "God is great" and "Khomeyni is the leader"]

Based on the policy of "Neither Eastern nor Western but the Islamic Republic," in our economic policies, too, we will not use Eastern or Western models. Rather, we will try to depend on Islam and on the self-sacrificing attitude of the people and present new models to the world. It is natural that in this field again the all-round presence and assistance of the people can enable the government to withstand economic difficulties, to solve them and to prepare the way for the economic revitalization of the country. It will enable the government to move toward the realization of the rights of the oppressed, assisting them and filling the frightful class gaps in our society. This will not be possible without the assistance of the people with their Islamic attitude. [shouts of "God is great" and "Khomeyni is the leader"]

Our Constitution clearly refers to three parts of the economy: government, cooperative and private. We do not plan to turn the government into a big employer, the term which has been used in the Constituttion. The role of the government in the economy will be exactly within the framework defined by the Constituttion.

At the same time, with the expansion of cooperatives -- not those under the government's domination but these which will be based on the power and capital of the people -- we will try to reduce the gap between labor and capital and to lay the groundwork for economic revitalization, while the private sector will be able to continue its activities with confidence and peace of mind, within legal frameworks. At the same time the private sector should be careful -- as the government will be -- that the infiltration of a number of hoarders, profiteers, wealth-loving and greedy individuals will not cause the private sector to be regarded by the masses as, God forbid, an exploitative sector or arouse their anger. [end recording]

Referring to the conspiracies of the hypocrite minigroup, Musavi said: Today the people regard these elements in the same way that they regard the enslaving culture which wishes to bring us under the yoke of the East or West.

Speaking on foreign policy, the prime minister stated: The people themselves will be the guides of our foreign policy in the same way that the nation itself formulated the policy of "Neither Eastern nor Western," in the face of tanks and guns. We shall continue our activities in the Ministry or Foreign Affairs. Concerning the issue of Palestine, our country will not compromise under any circumstances. The issue of Palestine is not an issue of territory but an Islamic issue.

RAFSANJANI QUESTIONED ON DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING

LD302238 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Supreme Defense Council, chaired by President Khamene'i, held a meeting tonight with the participation of the council's members. In the course of the meeting, apart from reviewing the situation on the various battlefields, discussions were held about future plans and programs. Present at tonight's meeting were the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, Hashemi-Rafsanjani; Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani; Musavi; Commander of the Revolution Guards Corps Mohsen Reza'i; Chief of the Joint Staff Brigadier General Zahirnezhad and commanders of the navy and air force.

After the meeting our correspondent spoke to Hashemi-Rafsanjani:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Hashemi, could you please tell us what issues were raised at tonight's meeting?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As usual, our first topic of discussion was to hear a report on the battlefields by Mr Zahirnezhad. As for future plans dealing with war operations, Mr [name indistinct] was also attending the meeting to hear them [words indistinct].

We also heard and debated a report made by the officer in charge of logistics.

[Question] Was the meeting presented with any report on enemy air raids and missile attacks against inhabited areas? If so, what is your own view on this topic?

[Answer] Indeed, this was one of the topics discussed. The air force commander, as well as a number of air force personnel, reported on this matter. In this connection, the commander of the navy also expressed his views. Some of those present at the meeting were of the opinion that in order to compensate for the serious defeat it has suffered in Abadan and also in anticipation of future strikes, Iraq is resorting to exhibitionist acts. It is common knowledge that the future of wars is not determined by bombing an inhabited area. [sentence indistinct] At any rate, these acts do not decide the future of this war, for the future of wars is decided on battlefields, as we demonstrated in Abadan, in the north of Abadan. [passage indistinct]

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Over the past 2 or 3 weeks, considering the change of the commander of the ground forces -- something which would naturally lead to a reorganization -- there has been some stagnation on the battlefronts. However, we do hope that this period of stagnation is over, enabling us to be more aggressive and active on all battlefields. As far as we are concerned, we hold the initiative on all battlefronts, with Iraq being unable to launch any serious assault anywhere, apart from firing some missiles, penetrating certain parts of our airspace or [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] Thank you. [end recording]

GHARAZI RETURNS FROM GENEVA OPEC MEETING

LD011148 Tehran PARS in English 1045 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Text] Tehran, 1 Nov (PARS NEWS AGENCY) -- The recent OPEC meeting in Geneva agreed on 34 U.S. dollars per barrel as the basic price of crude oil, said the oil minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mohammad Gharazi, upon his return from the session this morning. During the session it was decided that Saudi Arabia should decrease its production by two million barrels per day and at the same time increase its price from 32 to 34 U.S. dollars. As a result of this measure, added Gharazi, Saudi daily oil production will be 8.5 million barrels instead of the previous 10.5 million. Furthermore, this measure will enable the other OPEC member countries which had lost their previous share in the international oil market to recover it. In response to a question whether the decision to accept 34 dollars per barrel as the unified oil price would not mean that Iran would have to sell its oil two dollars cheaper, the oil minister said that this decision would enable countries such as Iran, Libya and Algeria, which were trying to sell their oil at its real value and which had lost their market because customers were attracted to cheaper oil, to regain their market share which they had lost during the past years and specially during the past three months.

As for the new price of oil, the oil minister said that thirteen OPEC members would sell their oil according to the unified price and those countries who failed to respect this price were in effect working to disintegrate OPEC. "We support this price", added Gharazi.

One of the outcomes of the session was that the Saudi delegation accepted the opinion of other members and increased its oil price to 34 dollars and cut back on its production by two million barrels.

Replying to a question concerning the current shortages of gasoline in Iran, Gharazi said that domestic refineries were producing more than the amount covered by petrol-rationing coupons in circulation and thus there was no reason for concern.

TABRIZI: CONNECTION BETWEEN MOJAHEDIN, EMBASSIES

LD301010 Tehran PARS in English 0905 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 30 Oct (PARS NEWS AGENCY) -- The prosecutor general of the revolution revealed that the Mojahedin-e Khalq organisation (MKO) was being financially supported by certain foreign embassies as well as some reactionary countries in the region. In an interview with PASDAR-E ENQELAB (DEFENDER OF THE REVOLUTION) magazine, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Tabrizi said that Egypt was one of the countries which was providing the MKO with much financial aid. He declined to name the foreign embassies involved on the grounds that it was not advisable to do so under present circumstances.

The prosecutor general further added that some 15 notoriously pro-monarchical businessmen, who were also supplying the MKO with financial aid, had been arrested following their exposure by an active member of the MKO.

Regarding the financial status of the MKO, the prosecutor general said that the leading members and active sympathisers in the MKO military branches were being furnished with the best houses with all expenses paid while they paid but scant attention to the few ordinary working class supporters of the organisation.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi said a number of MKO elements who had infiltrated the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), revolutionary committees and the public prosecutor's office had been recently identified and arrested. Referring to these arrests, the prosecutor general elaborated that four MKO members had been arrested last week following an armed clash with Islamic revolutionary guards who were raiding a hide-out. Among those arrested was a driver belonging to the motor pool of Evin Prison, Sid Musavi, adding that even following his arrest this agent had planned to assassinate Mr. Lajevardi and a number of other religious judges with grenades he had placed in his car. Through this MKO agent a number of other elements who had infiltrated the IRGC were identified and arrested, concluded Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi.

17 EXECUTED IN BUSHEHR, QU'EMSHAHR, NAHAVAND

LD310004 Tehran PARS in English 1618 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 30 Oct (PARS) -- Upon the verdicts issued by the Islamic Revolutionary Courts of Bushehr (Persian Gulf coast), Ga'emshahr (Caspian coast) and Nahavand (central Iran), 17 members of the guerrilla organisations of the Mojahedin (MKO) and Feda'iyan-e Khalq (Minority) were sentenced to death. The accused were military members of the two terrorist organisations who had participated in a series of military operations against innocent people and revolutionary organs.

The sentences were carried out in the past two days.

Meanwhile, in a related development, it was reported that nine advocates of the U.S.-backed MKO were arrested in Qu'emshahr during the past two days.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI: 21 EXECUTED FOR TERRORISM

NC010834 Paris AFP in English 0817 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Text] Tehran, 1 Nov (AFP) -- Another 21 Iranians, including four women, went before firing squads in the past four days, the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC newspaper reported here today.

Six so-called "hypocrites", official jargon for the Mojahedin opponents of the regime, were executed in Tehran, the paper of the ruling party said.

They were accused to "Terrorism, murdering Hezbollahi (members of the Party of God), setting fire to shops and buses, and insurrection against the Islamic Republic."

In Esfahan, in the centre of the country, seven men and three women were executed, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC said, without saying to what organisations they belonged.

Three men and a woman were also executed at Quchan, Khorasan Province, in the east, while at Karaj near the capital a "hypocrite" was executed for murdering a revolutionary guard and carrying a weapon.

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC said the executions were carried out last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Yesterday the newspaper reported seven executions in the same period.

The newspaper also said two Mojahedin were killed in a shootout with revolutionary guards at Karaj, without giving a date.

GUARDS CLASH WITH KURDISH PARTY MEMBERS

LD011734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that at noon today in an engagement between the guards and several counterrevolutionaries and members of the outlawed Kurdish Democratic Party in the city of Mahabad, five counterrevolutionaries were killed. This report adds that in this clash all the counterrevolutionaries' arms and ammunition were seized by the revolution guards.

According to the same report, in another clash at 1600-1900 yesterday in the vicinity of Sar Dasht between the defenders of Islam and the American minigroup of Komeleh and the outlawed Democratic Party, 11 armed members of the counterrevolutionaries were wounded.

'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' THWARTED IN KORDESTAN

LD020942 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] The Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has announced that attacks by mercenary members of the defunct Democratic Party and counterrevolutionaries, using missile launchers, mortars and grenades, on guards bases in Piranshahr, Miando'ab and Sar Dasht were foiled by our military and guards brothers. The raiders, having sustained casualties and damages, were forced to flee. Our forces suffered no casualties.

AFP: KURDISH REBELS SUFFER HEAVY LOSSES

NC020940 Paris AFP in English 0906 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Tehran, 2 Nov (AFP) -- Kurdish rebels suffered heavy losses in attacks on several government-controlled bases in the western Iranian towns of Mahabad, Piranshahr, Miando'ab and Sar Dasht, it was reported today.

Members of the outlawed Iranian Kurdish Democratic Party used rocket launchers and mortars yesterday to attack revolutionary guard headquarters at Piranshahr, Miando'ab and Sar Dasht, according to one newspaper report.

It was also reported that one village near Saqqez, western Iran, was "cleaned out" yesterday, and several rebels were killed.

Five "counter-revolutionaries" were killed yesterday in Mahabad, and 11 others died in clashes Saturday in Sar Dasht, according to press reports.

The Kurdish rebels also sustained heavy losses in clashes on the north-south road between Mahabad and Miando'ab, Miando'ab and Bukan, Bukan and Saqqez, Saqqez and Kamiyaran, according to the reports.

One revolutionary guard was burned alive in his car between Kamiyaran and Bukan, and four other government representatives were taken hostage and tortured in an unspecified Kurdish location, the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC newspaper reported.

The Iranian forces have captured Rashid Paruti, the newspaper added, calling him a "feudal capitalist who was responsible for most of the clashes."

Eleven other rebels were killed last week when they attacked government forces in the Sar Dasht region, the official PARS NEWS AGENCY reported.

IRAQIS BOMBING OWN POSITIONS OPPOSITE ABADAN

LD302310 Tehran PARS in English 1623 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 30 Oct (PARS) -- In the course of an air raid by Iraqi bombers upon the city of Abadan on Thursday, many cluster bombs dropped from high altitude landed and exploded upon the enemy positions on the other bank of the Arvand River [Shatt al-'Arab] in Iraq territory and inflicted casualties and damages on the aggressor forces. PARS correspondent reported that there was no information available on the extent of the Iraqis' self-inflicted casualties.

IRAQI TUPOLEVS BOMB ABADAN, OTHER CITIES

GF291807 Tehran PARS in English 1755 GMT 29 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 29 Oct (PARS NEWS AGENCY) -- Slight damage was inflicted and fire broke out when several Iraqi Tupolevs violated Abadan airspace today and dropped their bombs on the city. Relief teams extinguished the fire, but there was no immediate report on possible casualties.

In the past few days, Abadan and several other southern towns, including Ahvaz and Dezful, have been targets of Iraqi planes, missiles and artillery. By attacking civilians, the aggressors of Iraq further expose their atrocity and weak morale.

CLANDESTINE CLAIMS CUBANS ON PAKISTAN BORDER

NC311116 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] The delegation that has been sent by Khomeyni's regime to Pakistan started its talks with Pakistani officials. The delegation of Khomeyni's regime is headed by Hoseyn Lavasani, political director general of the Foreign Ministry. He has said that he hopes for friendly relations to be established between Iran and Pakistan. Hoseyn Lavasani also announced that the differences between Iran and Pakistan will be discussed during his talks with the Pakistani officials.

Our information sources have reported that recently a number of Cuban military experts and soldiers have arrived in Sistan va Baluchestan Province in order to confront armed antiregime groups and that they have been stationed in a base near the Pakistani border.

According to the same information sources, the stationing of Cuban forces on the Pakistani border had caused concern among Islamabad officials, and the Pakistani Government and submitted a highly confidential note to the Foreign Ministry of Khomeyni's regime. Following the reception of this note, Khomeyni's Islamic regime sent a delegation to Pakistan to explain the (?stationing) of the Cuban forces.

The existence of Cuban soldiers in Sistan va Baluchestan has not been confirmed by officials of Khomeyni's regime yet, but a Free Voice of Iran correspondent, quoting information sources in Zahedan, has reported there is proof of the existence of Cuban forces on the Iran-Pakistan border.

NEPAL

PAKISTANI FOREIGN SECRETARY ARRIVES FOR TALKS

BK021013 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Foreign Secretary Riaz Piracha has arrived in Katmandu to represent Pakistan at the foreign secretaries conference on regional cooperation. In a statement after his arrival in Katmandu he expressed hope that this conference will go a long way in strengthening, stabilizing and improving regional cooperation and it will prove beneficial to all countries participating in this conference. Besides this, it will also invigorate the efforts of developing countries to establish a new and just international economic order.

The foreign secretary said that at the Katmandu conference the reports of those five study groups which were set up at the Colombo conference last April will also be considered. These groups have identified possibilities for mutual cooperation in the areas of agriculture, rural development, health and family planning, meteorology and telecommunications. He said that Pakistan has coordinated work of study groups for telecommunications and participated actively in the working of other four groups.

The foreign secretary referred to Pakistan-Nepal relations and said that our views on important aspects of regional cooperation are similar.

SRI LANKA

SUN NOTES NEUTRALITY OF TRINCOMALEE

BK011312 Colombo SUN in English 27 Oct 81 p 7

[Text] Next to Sydney Harbour, Trincomalee is reported to be the best and the largest natural harbour in the world. Besides, Trincomalee's strategic situation gives it command over the sealanes in the Indian Ocean. Hence the wooing of Sri Lanka.

The Americans, the Russians and the Chinese are said to be casting eyes at Trincomalee while India both overtly and covertly is intent in trying to forbid the banns.

Despite vehement denials by both Sri Lanka and the United States that military concessions have been accorded to the US Navy, the anti-American lobby insists that such facilities have been promised. They pooh-pooh the denials and quote the classified document "US Military Overview" (serial No FOR/FY/1982) containing sensitive material drawn up by the US Joint Chiefs of Staff: Where one of the maps shows Trincomalee among the global naval facilities available to the United States.

So far Sri Lanka has remained neutral. Welcoming all navies whether they be Russian, American, British, Chinese, Australian or even Indian; and providing them with rest and recreation facilities. This is in keeping with Sri Lanka's commitment to the principles of non-alignment. Even during the Pakistan-Bangladesh wars Sri Lanka granted landing rights to Pakistan. Had either Bangladesh or India requested similar facilities they could have had them. But government must be alert that Trincomalee's facilities will not be misused by anyone. It should not be allowed to become a 'liberty port' either for US sailors or anybody else. It should not be allowed to become a smugglers' haven either for drugs or arms.

The Indian Ocean is now no peace zone. The action is there; and Trincomalee will be a haven should the expected storm break over the Indian seas. The political implications seem ominous and should be carefully evaluated. Ms. Jeanne Kirkpatrick's 'show cause' notice issued to our man in New York should not be dismissed lightly. Even though she does walk into the wrong cocktail parties and realises her mistake only when the drink is sake and not vodka as she thought.